

The State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERTL. MORGAN Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON Division Director OLENE S. WALKER Governor

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE

Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:

OGM Pete Hess Environmental Scientist III

# **Inspection Report**

Permit Number:	C0070038
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Monday, December 27, 2004
Start Date/Time:	12/27/2004 2:15:00 PM
End Date/Time:	12/27/2004 2:45:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Inspector: Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: Overcast; snow forecast. Temperature in mid-30's

InspectionID Report Number: 497

Types of Operations

Accepted by: WHEDBERG

1/10/2005

Permitee: PLATEAU MINING CORP
Operator: PLATEAU MINING CORP

Site: WILLOW CREEK MINE

Address: 847 NW HWY 191, HELPER UT 84526

County: CARBON

Permit Type: PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM

Permit Status: ACTIVE

#### Current Acreages

14,670.00	Total Permitted			
161.55	<b>Total Disturbed</b>			
	Phase I			
	Phase II			
	Phase III			

#### Mineral Ownership

# ✓ Federal ✓ Underground State ✓ Surface ✓ County ✓ Loadout ✓ Fee ✓ Processing ✓ Other ✓ Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

There were no representatives of the permitee available this day; only two Plateau Mining corporation employees remain at the site. It is assumed they are using vacation during the week separating the Christmas / New Year holidays. The access gate to the main Mine facilities area was closed and locked.

The only permit condition which is included within Attachment "A" of the current State permit is the requirement to submit quarterly surface and ground water information in an electronic form to the Division Electronic Data web site. The permittee continues to meet this requirement, as the third quarter 2004 information was uploaded to the EDI on December 13, 2004. Information for the following sites was received; stream monitoring points B151, B3N, B5 and B6. Sites B-25 and B-26 were reported as having no flow.

Inspector's Signature

Date

Monday, December 27, 2004

Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III Inspector ID Number: 46

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

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**Inspection Continuation Sheet** 

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# REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
  - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
   Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- 4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.

		Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1.	Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale				
2.	Signs and Markers	✓			
3.	Topsoil				
4.a	Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<b>✓</b>			
4.b	Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<b>✓</b>		✓	
4.c	Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	
4.d	Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<b>✓</b>		✓	
4.e	Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations				
5.	Explosives		<b>✓</b>		
6.	Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches				
7.	Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments				
8.	Noncoal Waste	✓			
9.	Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues				
10.	Slides and Other Damage		<b>✓</b>		
11.	Contemporaneous Reclamation				
12.	Backfilling And Grading	<b>V</b>		<b>✓</b>	
13.	Revegetation				
14.	Subsidence Control		✓		
15.	Cessation of Operations				
16.a	Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	✓			
16.b	Roads: Drainage Controls	✓			
17.	Other Transportation Facilities	✓			
18.	Support Facilities, Utility Installations	✓			
19.	AVS Check				
20.	Air Quality Permit				
21.	Bonding and Insurance				
22.	Other				

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#### **Inspection Continuation Sheet**

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#### 4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

The Mine facilities pond contained frozen snow in its bottom. The raw water process pond (Castle Gate preparation plant area) had a frozen surface. There were no compliance actions noted with either impoundment.

## 4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

Much of the Gravel Canyon reclaim area remains under frozen compacted snow, including the channel. There was no visible evidence of flow in the area. The implemented surface roughening in the area appears stable.

# 4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

As noted above, the third quarter surface water monitoring information for the various stream locations in the permit area was submitted to the Division on December 13, 2004, meeting the permit condition included in Attachment "A" of the current State permit.

# 12. Backfilling And Grading

The backfilled portal area at the Mine appears to remain stable. There were no visible signs of slumping, or material separation in this area.